

Application No. 09/330,792
Amendment Dated August 1, 2003
Reply to Office Action of April 10, 2003

REMARKS

This Reply is in response to the April 10, 2003 Final Office Action issued in connection with the above-identified patent application. Reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

I. Summary of the Office Action

Claims 43-63, 65-68, 127-146, 148-168, 210-230, and 232-252 are pending in this application.

Claims 43-44, 46-59, 66-77, 127-128, 130-142, 145, 149-160, 210-211, 213-226, and 233-244 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Young U.S. Patent No. 4,706,121 (hereinafter "Young").

Claims 45, 129, and 212 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Young in view of Lawler U.S. Patent No. 5,805,763 (hereinafter "Lawler").

Claims 60-61, 63, 65, 143-144, 146, 148, 227-228, 230, and 232 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Young in view of Wood U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0057893 (hereinafter "Wood").

Claims 78-85, 161-168, and 245-252 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Young in

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view of Marsh U.S. Patent No. 6,208,799 (hereinafter
"Marsh").

II. Interview Summary and Reply to Office Action

On June 18, 2003, the Examiner and the undersigned conducted a telephonic interview on the merits of the above-identified patent application. Applicants and the undersigned wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the interview.

Generally, the Examiner and the undersigned requested clarification that a proposed amended claim 43 which was faxed to the Examiner, addressed the issue noted in item #3 of the April 10, 2003 Office Action. In item #3, the Examiner states that claims 43-44, 46-59, 66-77, 127-128, 130-142, 149-160, 210-211, 213-226, and 233-244 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Young because "the additionally claimed feature of a means for displaying an option to schedule a recording of any combination of television programs in the series of television programs . . . is broad enough to read on the disclosure of Young that teaches that the schedule may be programmed to respond to either a single episode or all programs of a series" (April 10, 2003 Office Action, page 3).

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In the course of the personal interview, the Examiner believed, based on reviewing proposed amended claim 43, that the proposed amended claim 43 addresses this issue. Although Young generally describes an interactive program guide that includes a means for displaying an option to schedule a recording for television programs in a series, applicants' invention as defined in proposed amended claim 43 has a patentable improvement over Young because a means for displaying an option to schedule a recording for more than a single but less than all of the television programs in a series of television programs is provided. However, the Examiner stated that the undersigned should set forth the arguments made during the interview in written form and that they would be considered.

Accordingly, the undersigned has incorporated the concepts discussed in the interview, and as set forth in the Interview Summary dated June 26, 2003, in the amended claims and has filed concurrently herewith a Request for Continued Examination. The amendments are fully supported and justified by applicants' specification and drawings. No new subject matter has been added by any of the amendments.

In view of the interview conducted on June 18, 2003 and the above amendments, applicants respectfully submit that

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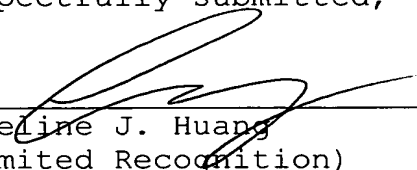
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amended independent claims 43, 127, and 210 are patentable over Young. Claims 44-63 and 65-85 are dependent from claim 43 and are allowable at least because claim 43 is allowable. Claims 126-146 and 146-168 are dependent from claim 127 and are allowable at least because claim 127 is allowable. Claims 211-230 and 232-252 are dependent from claim 210 and are allowable at least because claim 210 is allowable.

III. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Prompt consideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Expires: June 6, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Harry I. Moatz", written over a horizontal line.

Harry I. Moatz
Director of Enrollment and Discipline